



**SYSTEMS AND METHOD FOR TESTING THE LOAD OF
AT LEAST ONE IP-SUPPORTED DEVICE**

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[001] This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 10/049,867, filed July 2, 2002, which is a 371 of PCT/EP00/06509, filed July 10, 2000, which claims the benefit of DE 19937753.7, filed August 10, 1999.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. The Field of the Invention

[002] The present invention relates to a system and method for testing at least one device in a communications network that is based on an IP (internet protocol) standard, by one or more users.

2. The Relevant Technology

[003] Developers, system providers and administrators of large heterogeneous network configurations based on the IP standard, such as the internet, appear to be facing mounting challenges due to the rapid growth of the Internet and the speedy advancement in transmission and hardware technology. Therefore, testing new network or network expansions prior to actual installation for their load state may be considered an important task. By a load test one may mean that the targeted loading of the network, such as of the routers and servers connected to such a network, in order to determine their performance with respect to the required data throughput and the response time to a user request. There is, therefore, a need for a test system that is able